

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 CIAE-00 CU-04 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 USIA-15

EUR-25 AID-20 ISO-00 DRC-01 IOE-00 OMB-01 HEW-08 L-03

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R 171632Z JAN 74

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6141

UNCLAS PARIS 1459

NESCO/AIDAC

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: AORG, EAID, SCUL, UNESCO

SUBJECT: UNESCO FELLOWSHIPS IN THE UNITED STATES

REF.: (A) PARIS A-74, JANUARY 26, 1973

(B) PARIS A-569, AUGUST 2, 1973

(C) STATE 171308

(D) PARIS 23240

1. RECENT CONVERSATIONS IN UNESCO INDICATE THAT UNFORTUNATE CONSEQUENCES OF REDUCED NUMBER OF UNESCO FELLOWSHIPS IN US NOW LIKELY TAKE PLACE STARTING BIENNIUM 1975-76 DUE TO HIGH ADMINISTERING AGENCY FEES OF \$1,100 FOR STUDY TOUR AND \$620 FOR ACADEMIC PLACEMENT CHARGED UNESCO BY IIE. REPLY TO QUESTION RAISED IN PARIS A-74 AND PARIS A-569 WOULD BE WELCOMED. EVEN MORE WELCOME WOULD BE RESOLUTION OF ISSUE WHEREBY UNESCO IS APPARENTLY ONLY UN AGENCY BEING CHARGED ADMINISTERING AGENCY FEES BY U.S. WOULD HOPE THAT DECISION COULD BE FORTHCOMING FOR UNESCO TO BE TREATED IN SAME MANNER AS OTHER UN AGENCIES SUCH AS FAO AND WHO WHERE FELLOWSHIP PLACEMENTS ARE UNDERTAKEN BY U.S. GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS AT NO FEE.

2. AS EXPLAINED PARIS A-569 UNDP NO LONGER PAYS ADMINISTERING AGENCY FEES, THUS UNESCO MUST ABSORB THESE COSTS WITHIN UNCLASSIFIED

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ITS REGULAR BUDGET. FOR 1973-1974 THESE COSTS ESTIMATED AT

\$528,000 FOR THE ONLY SIX COUNTRIES IN WORLD WHICH CHARGE SUCH FEES -- U.S., WEST GERMANY, FRANCE, ITALY, JAPAN AND SWITZERLAND. IT IS ESTIMATED THAT U.S. PROVIDES 13 PERCENT OF TRAINING BUT TAKES 33 PERCENT OF TOTAL ADMINISTERING AGENCY FEES.

3. INFORMATION HAS BEEN RECEIVED THAT DUE TO BUDGET RESTRICTIONS THE LINE ITEM FOR ADMINISTERING AGENCY FELLOWSHIP FEES FOR UNESCO DRAFT BUDGET 1975-1976 WILL ONLY BE \$ 300,000. TO COVER THE PRIOR NUMBER OF FELLOWSHIPS WOULD HAVE REQUIRED AN AMOUNT OF \$600,000. OPTIONS OPEN TO UNESCO THEREFORE WILL BE TO CUT NUMBERS OF FELLOWSHIPS IN THE SIX COUNTRIES INVOLVED BY HALF OR TO NEGOTIATE REDUCTIONS IN FEES.

4. PERMDEL OF OPINION THAT U.S. NATIONAL INTEREST WOULD BE BEST SERVED BY MAINTAINING AND EVEN INCREASING NUMBERS OF UNESCO FELLOWSHIPS IN U.S. IF PLACEMENT COSTS BY IIE ARE AN OBSTACLE TO THIS THEN IT IS HOPED THAT OTHER MECHANISMS MIGHT BE USED SUCH AS IS PRESENTLY DONE WITH FAO. IT IS UNDERSTOOD THAT EITHER AID'S OFFICE OF INTERNATIONAL TRAINING OR U.S. OFFICE OF EDUCATION MIGHT BE ABLE HANDLE UNESCO FELLOWSHIP PLACEMENT.

5. IT IS UNDERSTOOD THAT THIS ISSUE WILL LIKELY ARISE IN UPCOMING EXECUTIVE BOARD SESSION IN MAY. ISSUE SHOULD BE RESOLVED WELL BEFORE THEN SO THAT U.S. WILL NOT BE PUT IN EMBARRASSING POSITION OF HAVING TO EXPLAIN HIGH COSTS RATIONALE AND WHY UNESCO FELLOWSHIPS IN U.S. MUST BE TREATED DIFFERENTLY THAN FAO OR WHO FELLOWSHIPS.

6. REQUEST PRIORITY CABLE REPLY.STONE

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